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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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1. I believe that most of the Communists in Thailand are of Chinese descent and that very few Thai natives are Communists or are attracted to communism. The native Thailander is usually quite religious in his practice of Buddhism which teaches its adherents to love their families and children. Because of these teachings the Thais do not want to destroy their family systems which they have heard has been done in Communist China. The Chinese who reside in Thailand, of which there are approximately one million, are those who are mainly attracted to the Communist ideology and I could not hazard a guess as to the number of Communists among them.

2. Chinese Communists have endeavored to enter Thailand by illegally crossing the borders, particularly the Thai-Indochina frontier. Many have succeeded in so crossing because there are insufficient numbers of Thai border police to apprehend all who try. Those who do enter the country exert effort in trying to convert the Thai residents into Communists, using propaganda as their principal weapon. Usually the propaganda is in printed form and is either posted on walls and buildings or else thrown in the streets. The Thai police are usually quick to tear down any such propaganda which is posted. Such propaganda that I have seen has urged the people to hate the Thai government and to convert it to a communistic form of government. I have not seen any propaganda relating to the Communists' charge of the UN forces using germ warfare in Korea although nearly all Thai newspapers carried items on germ warfare in their general world news sections. The news items usually printed what the Chinese Communists said as to germ warfare and did not carry near as much space on the denials of such charges by the US.

3. It is my opinion that the Thai government has taken action against communism. It has been strong enough to resist the efforts of the Communists and has arrested many of them. The usual charge preferred against them by the government is that the defendant has created unrest and disorder, not that he is a Communist. Those Chinese Communists who are arrested are investigated and if the charges against them are substantiated they are either deported, usually to Indochina, or else placed in jail.

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